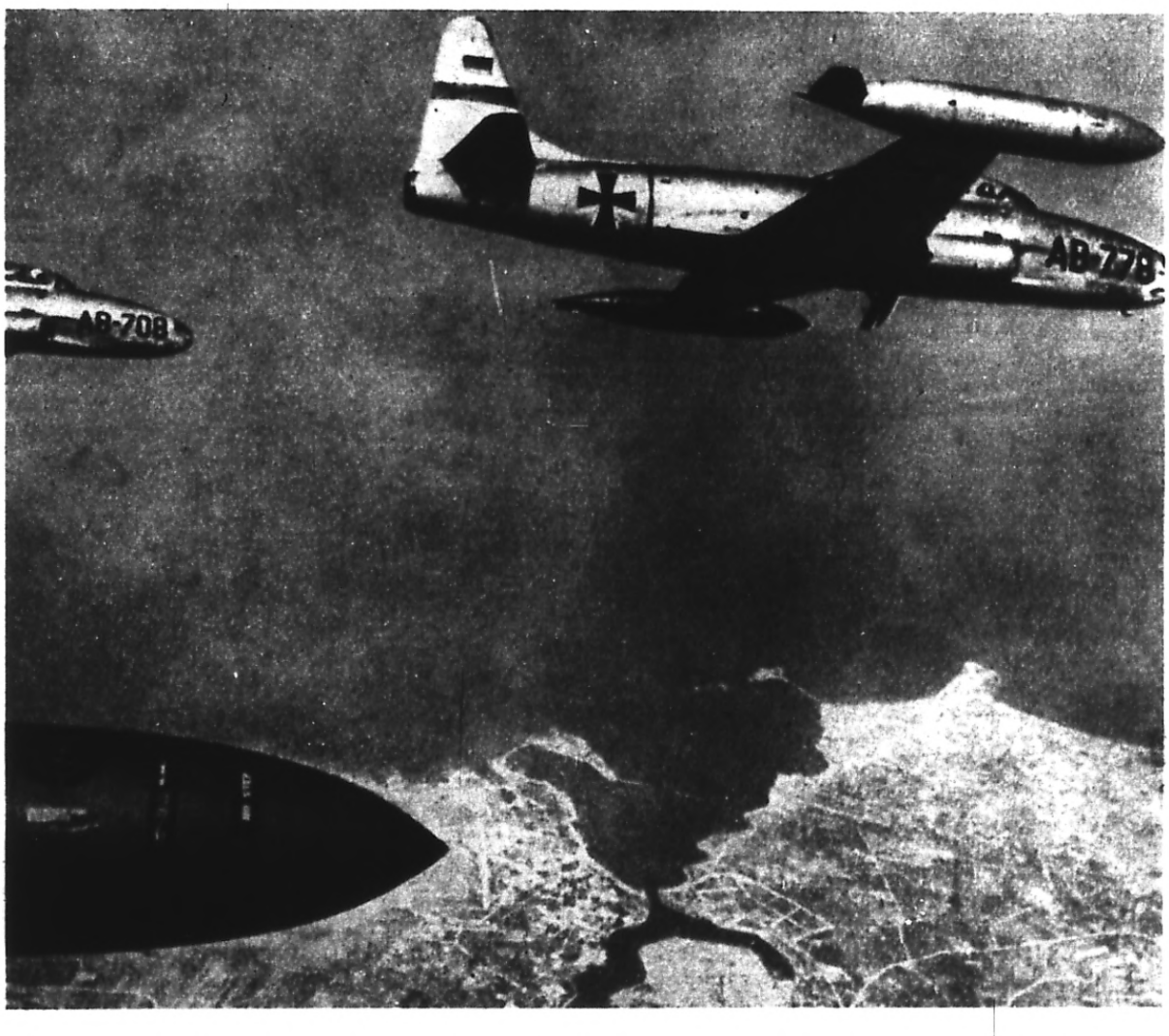
DEMOCRATIC
GERMAN REPORT
VOL. VII NO. 17 August 29th 1958 Price: 15 Pf., 5c., 3d.

NAZI PILOTS FLY JET PLANES



West German jet planes, flaunting the Iron Cross which marked the German planes in the Kaiser's war and Hitler's war, fly over the harbour of Brindisi, Italy. The date is July 1958.

The war-planes in this picture are flown by old nazi pilots, perhaps the very same pilots who bombed Brindisi in 1943 and 1944. They are under the command of General Josef Kammhuber, former right-hand man of Field Marshal Goering, chief of the nazi Luftwaffe.

. . . and what will be their target for tomorrow?
More pictures inside

WEST GERMANY'S ATTITUDE TOWARDS MIDDLE EAST CRISIS

In recent years, West German policy in the Middle East, and other semi-colonial areas, has been based on the claim that since West Germany has no colonies it is therefore a special "friend of the Arabs". In the course of the recent Middle East crisis, however, West German actions have lined it up fully on the side of the British and American colonialists. The German Democratic Republic, on the other hand, has repeatedly stressed its support for the national liberation movements in the Arab countries, as in all other colonial and semi-colonial areas.

Here is a summary of the actions and declarations of West German official quarters during the recent crisis:

July 15th: West German facilities such as airfields and ports are put at the disposal of the American forces of intervention being sent to Lebanon. At the emergency meeting of the NATO Council, West German representative Herbert Blankenhorn expresses full agreement with the American intervention.

July 16th: American planes take off from West German airports with troops bound for Lebanon.

July 17th: The West German Government bans protest marches against the agression planned by Arab students in Bonn, Muenster and other towns.

July 19th: The West German Government ignores a request by the Government of the German Democratic Republic to ban all forms of support for the Anglo-American intervention in Lebanon and Jordan.

July 23rd: The official spokesman of the West German Government announces the full support of his government for the Anglo-American measures in the Middle East. "The Federal German Government is completely at one with Britain and America in this matter", he declares.

July 26th: US Secretary of State Dulles visits Chancellor Adenauer in Bonn. An official communique announce that the two governments are "in full agreement".

July 27th: Turkish President Menderes visits Chancellor Adenauer in Bonn. Reports from Bonn state that one of the subjects discussed at the secret meeting is the possibility of stationing West German airmen and soldiers on Turkish territory.

August 7th: News from the West German Defence Ministry leaks out that at the very beginning of the Anglo-American aggression a group of 12 West German general staff officers visited Turkey to discuss possible West German participation in a western intervention against the new Irak Republic.

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And here is some background information about the long term West German attitude towards Middle East problems:

Early in 1955, Theodor Blank, at that time West German Defence Minister, visited Turkey together with General Heusinger, formerly Hitler's chief of operations. They held conversations on military cooperation between the two countries, and it was arranged that Turkey should help to supply munitions for the new West German Wehrmacht.

On January 31st 1957, West German Foreign Minister Brentano stated in a parliamentary debate: "The Federal German Government is determined to give its full support to the Eisenhower Doctrine in the Middle East".

In spring 1957, Chancellor Adenauer visited Iran. As a result of his visit, plans were made for West Germany to participate in the exploitation of Iran's oil.

And finally, here is the four-point programme for the Middle East outlined on April 13th 1956 by Herbert Hallstein, at that time State Secretary in the West German Foreign Ministry:

1. Exploitation of the great possibilities open there to West German industry.

2. A cultural policy made fruitful by the sympathy shown for Germany by the Arab people.

3. Protection of the military interests of West Germany in the Middle East.

4. Non-recognition of the German Democratic Republic by the Arab states.

U. S. Planes Invade Air-Space

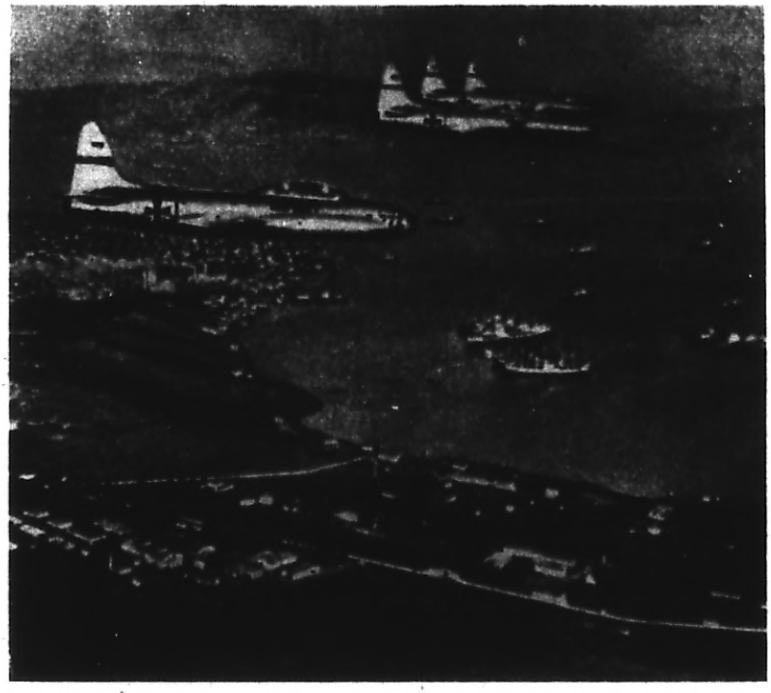
A total of five US jet fighters have infringed the air space of the German Democratic Republic in the past few days, the Foreign Ministry of the Republic announced on August 18th.

The planes refused to land when called upon to do so, the official statement said. The infringements of the border of the Democratic Republic took place on August 13th and 15th. On the first date, two US jet fighters flew some twelve miles deep into the air space of the Democratic Republic, for a total time of about eleven minutes. On August 15th there were two infringements, one of two minutes duration by one plane, and another of some six minutes by two planes identified as F 84 fighters.

The official statement said: "The planes did not comply with the orders to land, given in accordance with the international practice followed when the air space of another state is infringed. The weather at the time of these incidents and the equipment of the planes in question makes it impossible to claim that the infringements were unintentional. Once again planes from the NATO states have infringed the sovereignty of the German Democratic Republic, and have blatantly broken the rules governing international flights. These illegal acts constitute a serious danger to the security of flight in the air space of the German Democratic Republic.

"The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the German Democratic Republic protests sharply at this renewed infringement of the air space of the Republic, and points out that those who initiate such actions must bear the full responsibility for the results."

IRON-CROSS PLANES MAKE SWEEPS OVER MEDITERRANEAN CITIES

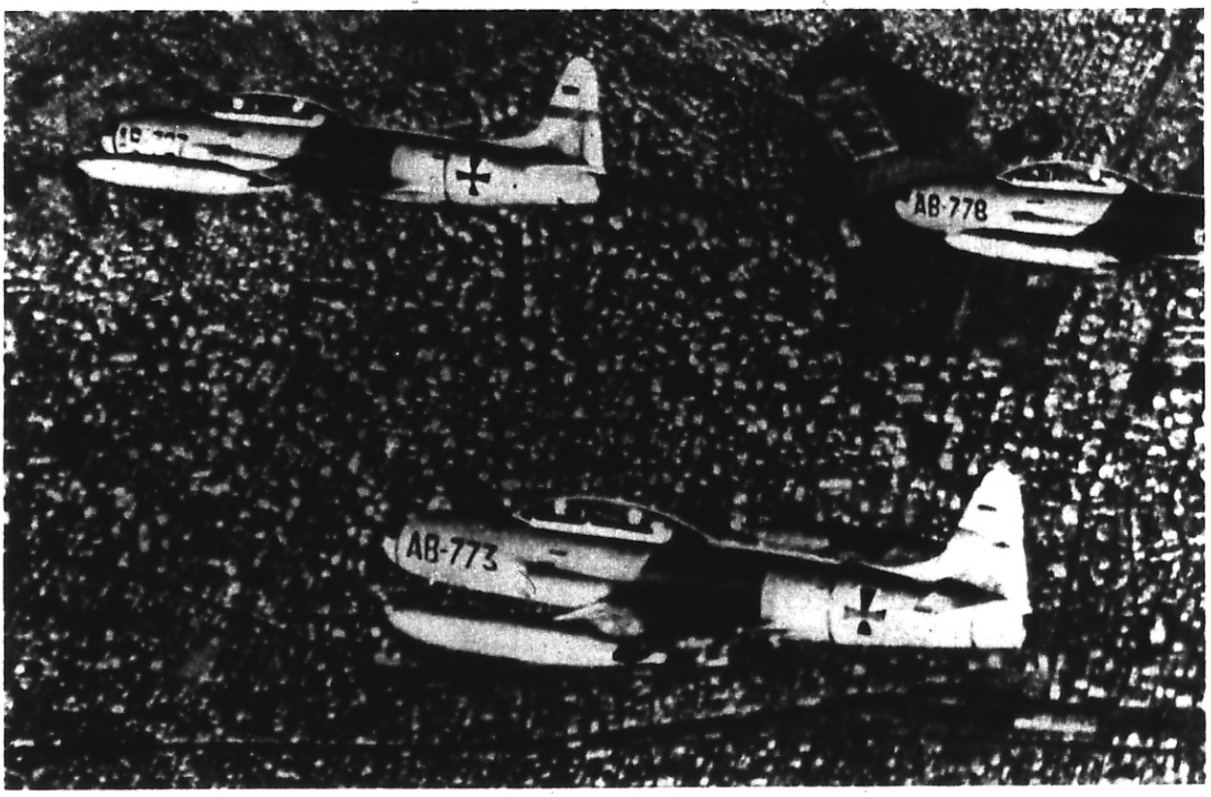


Nearly every day, these West German jet planes make regular sweeps across southern France, Italy and Greece to NATO bases in Turkey. Reports from West German sources say that they were particularly active during the initial stages of the American intervention in Lebanon, and according to other reports they flew escort to the American transport planes which took thousands of US troops from West Germany to Adana, Turkey, on their way to Beirut.

In World War Two, nazi planes marked with the same iron cross, flown by the same pilots, and commanded by the same generals, launched the Blitz on Warsaw, Rotterdam, Coventry and hundreds of other cities. Bombs from these planes killed more than 60,000 civilian men, women and children in Britain alone.

On August 19th this year nineteen R. A. F. officers arrived in West Germany to train more German pilots for the new West German Luftwaffe.

Soon these West German planes are likely to be armed with atom bombs – unless YOU help to stop them.



West German planes, flown by old nazi pilots; make sweeps over Piraeus (above) and Athens (below), both of which were bombed by nazi planes in World War Two

You Ask — We Answer

STANDARD OF LIVING

"In your issue of July 18th you reported that the German Democratic Republic was planning to catch up with West Germany in the consumption of consumer goods per head by 1961; but in earlier issues you had often given the impression that the standard of living in the Republic was already higher than West Germany. There seems to be a contradiction here. Please elucidate."

J. R., Hull, England

This apparent contradiction between earlier announcements and the present programme for "catching up with West Germany" has caused some confusion in the German Democratic Republic too, and on August 17th, "Neues Deutschland" the central organ of the Socialist Unity Party, devoted a whole page to a long article by economist Dr Rolf Gutermuth in which he attempts to deal with similar questions which had been asked by workers in the Democratic Republic. Here are some of the main points from Dr Gutermuth's reply:

"This confusion arises from a tendency to regard living standard and per capita consumption as identical. Naturally the per capita consumption of food, clothing etc., is a very important part of the living standard, but such figures are neither the only feature nor even the main feature.

"What do we really mean by 'standard of living'? It is not so easy to define, since it includes all economic, material and cultural factors affecting daily life, and many of these factors are of such a nature that it is impossible to express them in statistics.

"As a matter of fact 'standard of living' does not form part of the terminology of scientific marxist political economy. The phrase comes from bourgeois political economy, and bourgeois economists use the phrase to make capitalism more attractive and to slander socialism . . .

"It is necessary to make a distinction between three factors which govern the daily life of the working people:

1. The social position of the workers, their role in the factory, the state and in society. It should be clear that it is impossible to equate the situation of a working class which is in power, which owns the factories, and which has abolished exploitation, with the situation of a working class which is oppressed by a clerical-militarist state in the hands of the monopolies . . . and which is menaced by capitalist competition and crisis.

2. The material niveau of life: this includes working hours, wages and prices, real wages, per capita consumption, and all those things generally described as standard of living. This however does not really sum up the material side of the situation of the workers correctly, since this must also include such factors as intensity of work, factory accidents, social insurance, holidays, housing and so on.

3. The cultural niveau, that is to say the extent to which the broad masses of the people participate in the treasures of culture and science, the extent to which they can themselves be active in the cultural and scientific field, the level of public education, cultural and scientific development particularly in the countryside, and so on.

"If we wished to analyse thoroughly all these factors in the two German states, it would be necessary to write a whole book. But it is sufficient to take a glance at the most important of these factors to ascertain that for years the standard of living of the working people in the German Democratic Republic has been higher than in West Germany, even though in a number of commodities, particularly in industrial goods, per capita consumption has not yet reached the West German level.

"The apparent contradiction arises from the fact that the socialist order in the German Democratic Republic has shown its superiority over the clerical-militarist system in West Germany in most fields, but not yet in all fields."

Fifth Big Freighter Ready

The fifth 10,000 ton freighter built in the shipyards of the German Democratic Republic has now been completely fitted, and will soon make its first voyage to China, it was announced on August 1st. Three of the five freighters, "Frieden", "Freundschaft" and the new ship "Dresden" are plying in the merchant marine of the German Democratic Republic. One, the "Dukla" is plying under the Czechoslovak flag, and its sister ship "Zeromski" has been sold to a Polish-Chinese consortium.

Win a New Reader

Fill in the name and address of a friend, work-mate or acquaintance on the form below, and send it to

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We shall be pleased to mail sample copies of the paper to him or her.

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Twenty Years Ago

"PEACE IN OUR TIME"

Do you remember this picture? No, it does not come from Madame Tussaud's Waxworks: it is a real photograph of real people: from left to right Mr Neville Chamberlain, then British Prime Minister; Edouard Daladier, then French Prime Minister; Adolf Hitler, German Chancellor; and Benito Mussolini, Italian Duce.

It shows them together in Munich on September 29th 1938, just 20 years ago. They had just signed the Munich Agreement, by which Czechoslovakia was handed over bound and fettered to the German dictator by the British and French Prime Ministers, and World War Two had been made inevitable.

Why have we dragged up this picture and the story of the Munich betrayal from the dust of the archives? Winston Churchill gave a very good reason in a speech on May 29th 1936, warning about the danger of nazi rearmament; "The use of recriminating about the past is to enforce effective action at the present" he said then.

And so we recall to your memory the events of September 1938, twenty years ago . . .

The background to the Munich agreement is given in potted form in the book "Guilty Men", by British Labour M. P. Michael Foot, published in 1940 by Victor

(cont. on next page)

Gollancz. Here is part of his account:

"For a long time German propaganda had been directed to fomenting discontent and violence among the German minority inside Czechoslovakia. Hitler had constantly said that he would not tolerate such a situation and that the Sudeten Germans must be restored to the Reich. In June 1938 the Nazi threats became violent. Mr Chamberlain thereupon sent Lord Runciman to Czechoslovakia to attempt to negotiate a compromise between the Czechs and the Germans.

"Early in August, Germany began to mobilise, and Ribbentrop told the British ambassador in Berlin that his country was determined to find a solution of the problem by the autumn.

"All through August the situation became worse. Lord Runciman was browbeating the Czechs and urging them to be more accommodating. German demands were increasing and were set out in ever more menacing terms.

"On September 12th, Hitler made a speech at Nuremberg saying that the German army was mobilised on the Czech frontier and that he supported the Sudeten Germans in their demand for freedom . . ."

In the following two weeks, Mr Chamberlain made three visits to Hitler. Each time he offered Hitler more concessions (only at the cost of Czechoslovakia, not at the cost of Britain) in order to appease him.

In his final meeting with Hitler at Munich on September 28th and 29th, Mr Chamberlain gave Adolf Hitler what amounted to a free hand in Czechoslovakia. Then he flew back to London, and stepped out of his plane waving the Munich Agreement in his hand, and declaring "This means peace in our time." When he got back to Downing Street, he said "I bring you peace with honour".

Just before signing the Munich Agreement, Adolf Hitler declared, in a speech in Berlin on September 26th: "This is the last territorial claim I have to make in Europe."

Mr Chamberlain's "Peace in our time" lasted for just eleven months, for on September 1st 1939 Adolf Hitler marched into Poland. He had discovered many more territorial claims in Europe: in fact he had discovered a claim to the whole of Europe.

And now for the recriminations about the past. Why did Mr Chamberlain attempt to appease Hitler by throwing him Czechoslovakia, and by wrecking all the plans for collective security in Europe which had been built up by statesmen in the Soviet Union and other countries in the preceding years?

The explanation is complex, no doubt, but one reason is very plain: faced by the spectacle of renascent, aggressive German militarism, Mr Chamberlain, and the forces he represented, hoped to channel it into expansion in eastern Europe, and above all, into a war against the Soviet Union.

And that is the lesson which we have to draw from the Munich Agreement today. In 1958 we see renascent aggressive German militarism again in the West German state. The generals who marched into Czechoslovakia in 1938 at the head of Hitler's Wehrmacht are the same men who today head the Adenauer's Wehrmacht in West Germany, and who will soon have atomic weapons at their service.

For the past few years, western politicians have been playing the same game with West Germany as Chamberlain and his gang played with Hitler's Germany: they have been rebuilding its military strength in the hope that it can be channelled into expansion in eastern Europe, and above all into a war against the Soviet Union.

West German politicians are today speaking again in the same jargon that Hitler used. They speak about "Germany's civilising mission in the east" and about "traditional German territories under Czech and Polish administration" which must be won back.

You Have Been Warned!

PENSIONS FOR MURDERERS

Hundreds of leading nazis, many of whom were directly implicated in Hitler's mass murderers, are today drawing large pensions from the West German state.

A special pamphlet dealing with these murderers, entitled "Millions for Murderers" has been published by the Lower Saxony branch of the West German Trade Union Federation. We publish below some of the details given by this West German trade union pamphlet, together with some additional information on the persons concerned, compiled from our files.

Dr Erich Gritzbach, SS Colonel and formerly private secretary to Goering, receives a monthly pension of 1293 marks (over £100). Gritzbach was author of the official biography of Goering published by the central nazi party publishers in 1937. He drew up the lists of persons to be murdered in Hitler's private bloodbath on June 30th 1934 (see "The SS: Alibi of a Nation" by Gerald Reitlinger, Heinemann, London 1956, page 66).

Eggert Reeder, SS General, and military administrator in nazi occupied Belgium. Today he receives a monthly pension of 1400 marks (about £120) from the West German authorities. On March 9th 1951 a Belgian court jailed him for 12 years for his part in the deportation of Jews from Belgium to nazi death camps, but released him shortly afterwards.

Manfred Roeder, Judge General of the nazi Luftwaffe. Receives full general's pension from West German authorities. Passed more than fifty death sentences in one trial on charges of anti-Hitler conspiracy. One of those executed was American subject Mrs Mildred Harnack ("SS: Alibi of a Nation", p. 292).

Alexander von Woedtke, SS Colonel and nazi Police President in Glogau. Receives full pension of 1200 marks as retired Police President.

Walter Schroeder, SS General and nazi Police President of Luebeck. Receives monthly pension of 1200 marks as retired Police President.

Karl Doenitz, Grand Admiral, appointed by Hitler as his successor. One of main war criminals tried at Nuremberg. Receives monthly pension of 2246 marks (about £200).

Erich Raeder, Grand Admiral, sentenced at Nuremberg trial as major war criminal. Receives monthly pension of 2246 marks (about £200).

Erwin Milch, Field Marshal. Receives monthly pension of 1300 marks (about £115). Proposed medical experiments which led to death of many prisoners of nazi concentration camp at Dachau (Document PS 343, International Military Tribunal, Nuremberg).

Youth Will Build Pipeline, Canal

Young people in the German Democratic Republic will play a main part in two great new industrial plans which are now being worked out in detail, it was announced in Berlin on August 21st.

First of these projects is the building of Europe's biggest pipeline, which will bring oil from Soviet oilfields right across Poland to the German Democratic Republic, where great new refineries and chemical works are planned to use this valuable raw material. The pipeline is scheduled to bring in the major part of the nearly 5 million tons of oil which Democratic Germany will be importing annually by 1965.

Second big project which will be the object of youth mobilisation will be a new canal system to link the big harbour, now in construction at the Baltic port of Rostock, with the existing canal and river system of the Democratic Republic. Definite plans for the new canal system are still in the planning stage.

Democratic German Envoy Visits Bagdad

A special envoy of the Prime Minister of the German Democratic Republic has visited Bagdad and had conversations with members of the new government of the Irak Republic, it was officially announced in Berlin on August 15th. The envoy, Paul Wandel, Ambassador of the German Democratic Republic in Peking, assured Irak's Prime Minister Abdel Karim el Kassem that the Democratic Republic gave its full support to Arab liberation movement, and that it condemned the imperialist aggression in the Middle East, and the support given to this aggression by the West German Government.

Iceland's 12-Mile Zone

The German Democratic Republic has fully recognised Iceland's right to proclaim a 12-mile-zone round her coasts as territorial waters, it was officially announced in Berlin on August 17th. Fishing vessels from the Democratic Republic will respect this zone.

The West German Government, in common with Britain and other countries, has refused to recognise the right of Iceland to protect its coastal fisheries.

TWO YEARS AFTER BAN

This picture shows a selection of six recent issues of the newspapers of the West German Communist Party. The party was banned in West Germany two years ago, and since then all such newspapers and magazines have had to be produced and distributed illegally, exactly as they were during the nazi period. Many of the men and women now printing and distributing these illicit publications have great experience in this field: they produced similar newspapers and leaflets right through the period of Hitler's rule.

The headlines in the papers shown demonstrate the main aims for which the illegal Communist Party in West Germany is fighting today: "Peace and Liberty in the Near East" – "Force a Plebiscite (on A-bombs) by Fighting Action" – "More than 30,000 Demonstrate Against Atom Death" – "Garmisch District Fights Against NATO Firing Range" – "Working Class Driving Force in Struggle Against Atom Death".

Prisoner's Wife Appeals

(The following letter has been received from Frau Lieselotte Fisch, wife of a former West German Communist M. P. who is now serving a three year jail sentence in Muenster. Readers in Britain can send protests to the West German Embassy, 6 Princes Gate, London, S. W. 7.)

"You will understand that as a wife and mother all my efforts are directed to seeing my husband free again soon.

"During the Hitler period my husband was also jailed — first in prison, finally in concentration camp.

"These hardships left their effects. My husband's health gives ground for great anxiety. He has a residual scar after coronary thrombosis, high blood pressure, and only one kidney, which itself functions irregularly. Because of his serious condition the present sentence means danger for his life.

"After being sentenced he was put into the prison hospital at Bochum, but since July 31st he is in the sick-bay of the convict prison at Muenster. There he is put on the same footing as criminals serving life sentences — an innocent man, whose whole life and activity were for the welfare of others, now thrown among murderers, sexual criminals, confidence tricksters, thieves.

"But at the same time people who committed dreadful crimes under Hitler are being handled with kid gloves in the Federal Republic: for example Herr Eisele, a mass murderer in Hitler's concentration camps, who was given the chance to escape abroad when his crimes could no longer be concealed.

"The treatment of my husband is rank injustice and I believe that no honest person, regardless of political persuasion, can remain silent about it.

"Please support me in my efforts to obtain liberty for my husband. Please ask too for an amnesty for all political prisoners.

"I would be very grateful if you would, in addition, let me know your views.

Lieselotte Fisch
Dechenweg 8
Duesseldorf
West Germany

BERLIN NOTEBOOK

By John Peet

One would have thought that after the experiences of two world wars, nobody in Britain would have been particularly pleased to learn that the West German navy was going in for U-boats once again, but the West German admirals, all of them old nazi admirals, are already in proud command of an unspecificed number of these vessels, and as I write these lines they are touring round the Baltic on their summer manoeuvres. There have been no reports yet that West German U-boats have been sighted hanging around off Portsmouth, Plymouth and Liverpool, practising sinking British ships, but that will come in time, I expect.

Now the nazi admirals are looking forward to getting into the atomic submarine racket. The influential West German newspaper "Die Welt" reported on August 12th that the West German Defence Ministry was "looking forward to equipping the Federal Navy with atom-powered submarines".

"A special commission of the German-French-Italian armament community is dealing with motors driven by atomic power. This commission is making tests to see whether such motors would be suitable for U-boats and planes for the Federal Republic" the paper stated.

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Many readers will have heard of Parkinson's law, the invention of a lively British satirist: the law states roughly that in any organisation the number of employees varies in inverse proportion to the amount of work which has to be done.

Now at first sight, a perfect example of Parkinson's Law would appear to be provided by the West German Navy, and in particular by the number of Admirals employed.

The West German navy, according to the most recent figures, consists of a total tonnage of 26,000 tons, and its largest single unit is the "Hummel", a 20-year-old gunboat of just 870 tons. To command this not very imposing fleet, the West German navy employs no fewer than 11 admirals.

This imposing array of admirals is exactly the same number as once commanded Kaiser Wilhelm's navy, which had 20 ships of the line and some 50 cruisers.

The West German "Welt der Arbeit", official weekly organ of the West German Trade Union Federation, commenting on this superabundance of admirals, points out that at this rate per registered ton, it would take no less than three admirals to command the new Baltic railway ferry boat just launched in East Germany.

But I am rather afraid that in this case, Mr Parkinson's interesting law does not really apply. The West German navy is not a bureaucratic organisation which is running down and getting overburdened with gold braid at the top: it is just being built up, and the admirals, all of them old-time commanders in the nazi navy, are there on hand, waiting to take over command again as soon as the ships become available. There is a good precedent available for this in fairly recent German history: after the First World War, the German Army was limited by the Treaty of Versailles to a total strength of 100,000 men. By packing this relatively small army with highly-trained officers and N.C.O.s, the German militarists had all the cadres ready when Hitler gave them the chance to build a mass army once again after he came to power. And I fear that is what the overweighted West German navy plans to do with its supernumery admirals. You have, once again, been warned.

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"We should not do anything which might offend the nazis" seems to be the slogan of the town council of Ludwigsburg near Stuttgart in West Germany.

It came about like this: in November 1938 the nazis launched their first big pogrom of the German Jews. All over Germany synagogues were burned, and Jews were beaten, arrested and murdered.

In Ludwigsburg too the synagogue was burned down by Hitler's storm troops, acting on orders from Berlin.

After the war, many people in Ludwigsburg thought that it would be fitting and proper to erect a memorial plaque on the site of the synagogue, which had been completely destroyed. Early this year the Social Democratic minority in the Ludwigsburg town council presented a motion urging the erection of such a plaque, which would act as a reminder to the people of the town of the brutal vandalism of the nazi period.

The Christian Democratic majority did not really like the idea (many of them are in fact old nazis), but they did not like to expose themselves publicly by opposing the idea. So they introduced an amendment, proposing that the plaque should be erected with this wording:

"This is the site of the synagogue from 1884 to 1938. It was destroyed on November 10th 1938."

It is a beautifully neutral inscription. For the younger generation of Ludwigsburg citizens it could well mean that the synagogue had been destroyed by fire, or, if they do not know their dates very well, that it had been bombed out in the Second World War. But that is the plaque which is going to be erected in the next few weeks.

But what about the Jewish community? One might have assumed that the site of the synagogue was the property of the Jewish community: but that assumption is only valid if one does not know the state of affairs in West Germany today. The site of the synagogue was stolen by the nazis, as the property of "un-German elements", and it has never been returned. Josef Warscher, head of the Jewish Community Council in Stuttgart, commented: "The nazis stole the synagogue site, so we have no powers to prohibit the erection of this nonsensical commemorative plaque".

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I am glad to be able to report that the protests about the rehabilitation of nazi concentration camp doctors in West Germany have already had some effect. Early in August the Ministry of the Interior of the West German province of Schleswig-Holstein annouced that it had withdrawn permission to practice from Dr Herta Oberhaeuser, who was responsible for the torturing of prisoners in the women's concentration camp at Ravensbrueck. Full details of her crimes were given in GERMAN REPORT dated August 1st.

This belated action is obviously connected with the strong protest made by the British Medical Association on July 11th, and shows that protests in Britain and other countries against West German re-nazification can have valuable results.

In our last issue, dated August 15th, we gave further details of some of the nazi concentration camp doctors who are practising medicine again in West Germany today. Protests to the West German Government could produce action in these cases too.

Edited and published fortnightly by John Peet. Democratic German Report, Friedrichstraße 167/III Berlin W 8, Telephone 22 29 68. Printed in Germany by (204). Veröffentlicht unter Lizenz-Nr. 694 beim Presseamt des Ministerpräsidenten der Deutschen Demokratischen Republik.